

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 IO-10 ISO-00 INT-05 AID-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01

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FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8536

INFO ALL EC CAPITALS 473

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMCONSUL CAPETOWN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE EC BRUSSELS 2596

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: RH, UN, EEC

SUBJECT: PROPOSED EEC GRANT WILL NOT BENEFIT RHODESIA

REF: A) USUN 917

B) BONN 4642

C) LONDON A-205, MARCH 7, 1975

1. REFTELS REPORT A DECISION B AN EC TECHNICAL COMMITTEE TO GRANT FUNDS FOR A "PIG IRON RESEARCH PROJECT" IN COLLABORATION WITH, AMONG OTHERS, RHODEISA. ON MARCH 24 WE SPOKE WITH PETER EVENS, THE EC COMMISSION DIVISION CHIEF IN THE STEEL DIRECTORATE OF THE DIRECTORATE GENERAL FOR INDUSTRY, WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR TECHNICAL RESEARCH AND INDUSTRIAL INNOVATION
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AND HAS BEEN HANDLING THE PIG-IRON CASTING RESRACH PRO-

JECT. EVANS SAID THAT THERE HAS NOT YET BEEN A FINAL COMMUNITY DECISION TO FINANCE THE PIG-IRON RESEARCH PROJECT, BUT THAT IF IT IS FINALLY APPROVED, THERE WILL BE NO PARTICIPATION WHATEVER BY RHODESIA.

2. ACCORDING TO EVANS, THE INTERNATIONAL PIG IRON SECRETARIAT IN DUSSELDORF IN THE FALL OF 1974 SUBMITTED THE RESEARCH PROJECT, WHICH INCLUDED PARTICIPATION BY RHODESIA, TO THE EC COMMISSION. IN NOVEMBER, THE COMMISSION'S TECHNICAL RESEARCH COMMITTEE FOUND THE PIG IRON PROJECT TECHNICALLY INTERESTING, BUT THE EC COMMISSION OFFICIALS RESERVED REGARDING THE PARTICIPATION OF RHODESIA. AT THIS POINT THE STORY OF APPROVAL OF THE PROJECT LEAKED TO THE PRESS. BECAUSE OF THE TECHNICAL VALUE OF THE PROJECT, COMMISSION OFFICIALS SOUGHT A WAY TO HAVE IT CARRIED OUT WITHOUT ANY INVOLVEMENT BY RHODESIA. THE SOLUTION THEY HAVE COME UP WITH IS TO HAVE THE PROJECT DONE UNDER CONTRACT WITH AN ORGANIZATION IN FRANCE IN WHICH ONLY EC COUNTRIES WILL BE ASSOCIATED. EVANS SAID THAT THE INTERNATIONAL PIG IRON INSTITUTE HAS NO PROBLEMS WITH THIS.

3. EVANS SAID THAT A FEW WEEKS AGO THE EUROPEAN COAL AND STEEL COMMUNITY (ECSC) CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE APPROVED THE PROJECT WITH THE FRENCH ORGANIZATION CARRYING OUT THE WORK. AT THE END OF APRIL THE PROJECT WILL GO BEFORE THE ECSC GROUP IN THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS AS THE FIRST STEP FOR ULTIMATE EC COUNCIL APPROVAL. GREENWALD

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